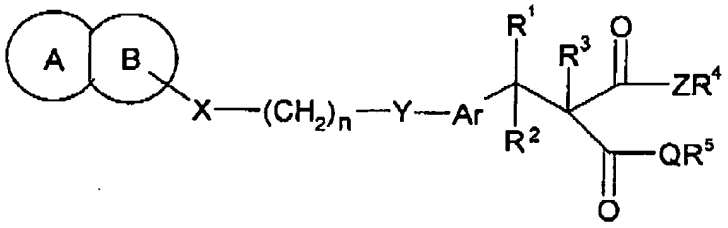
In the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula I prepared for administration



(I)

wherein

ring A, fused to ring B, represents a 6 membered cyclic ring, which may optionally contain one nitrogen atom and may optionally be substituted with one or more alkyl; the ring A may be saturated or aromatic;

ring B, fused to ring A, is a benzene ring;

X and Y are independently O;

Z represents O or NR^6 wherein R^6 represents hydrogen or alkyl;

Q represents O or NR^7 wherein R^7 represents hydrogen or alkyl;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H or alkyl;

R^4, R^5 are independently H or alkyl;

Ar represents benzene; and

n is an integer ranging from 1 to 6.

2. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1, wherein n is 2.

3. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1, wherein

Q is O or NR^7 wherein R^7 represents hydrogen;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently H;

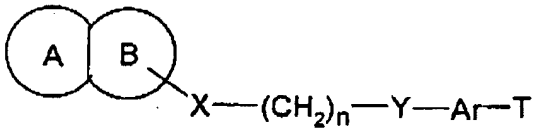
R^4 and R^5 are independently H or methyl;

Ar is benzene group;

n is 2.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula II wherein

ring A, ring B, X, Y, Ar and n are as defined in claim 1, and T is -CHO or $-R^1C=C(COOMe)_2$ wherein R^1 is as defined in claim 1.



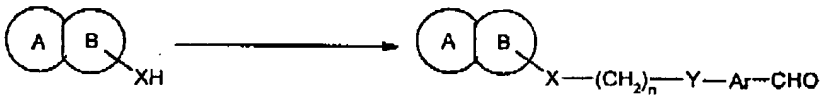
(II)

5. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 4 wherein:

n is 2.

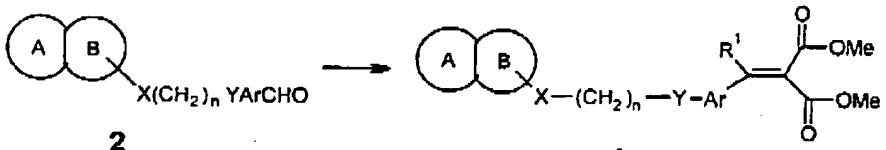
6. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a compound according to claim 1, a stereoisomer, enantiomer, diastereomer, hydrate or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof comprising the steps of:

a) changing the compound of formula 1 to the benzaldehyde derivative 2;



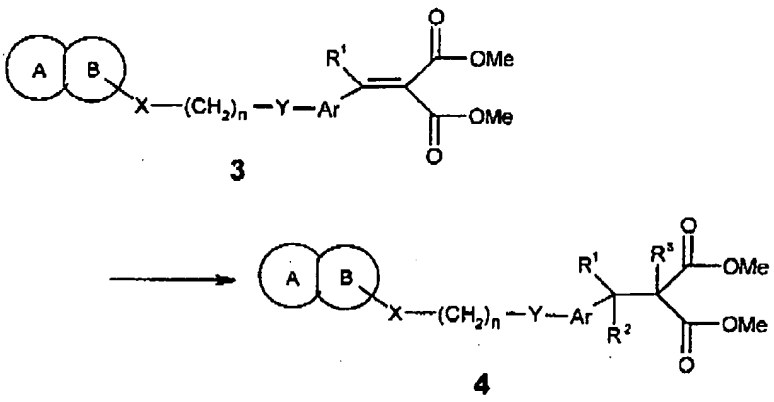
1 2

b) changing the aldehyde 2 to the benzylidene 3 by Knoevenagel condensation;

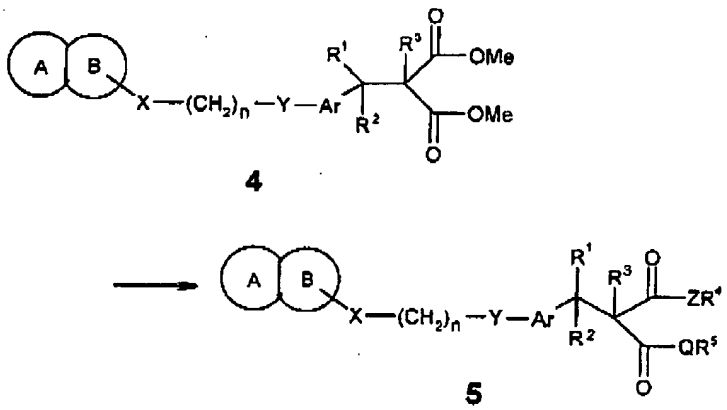


2 3

c) obtaining the dimethyl malonate 4 by catalytic hydrogenation of 3;



d) changing the dimethyl malonate 4 to other 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds 5.



7. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 6 wherein:

(a) the benzaldehyde derivative 2 is prepared by the reaction of compound 1 with p-bromoethoxy benzaldehyde in the presence of potassium hydroxide;

(b) the Knoevenagel condensation is achieved by treating the benzaldehyde 2 with dimethyl malonate in the presence of a catalytic quantity of piperidinium acetate;

(c) the catalytic hydrogenation is achieved by treating the benzylidene 3 with H_2 in the presence of 5% palladium on carbon;

(d) the other 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds 5 are prepared from 4 by hydrolysis or other conventional reactions.

8. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition for activating nuclear receptors comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 wherein the composition further comprises one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, carriers or diluents.

9. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8, wherein the nuclear receptors comprise the Retinoid X Receptor (RXR), and the Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptors (PPAR).

10. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 9 in unit dosage form, comprising from about 0.05 to about 100 mg of the active compound.

11. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10 in unit dosage form, comprising from about 0.1 to about 50 mg of the active compound.

12. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 9 which is suitable for administration by an oral, nasal, transdermal, pulmonary, or parenteral route.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a condition characterized by hyperglycemia [[mediated by at least one Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptor (PPAR)]], comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to lower blood glucose.

14-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein at least one condition is selected from the group consisting of type 2 diabetes, dyslipidemia, and obesity.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the effective amount of the compound is in the range of from about 0.05 to about 100 mg/kg body weight per day.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the effective amount of the compound is in the range of from about 0.1 to about 50 mg/kg body weight per day.